

THE DAILY TIMES.

PUBLISHED AT
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.
BY THE
Times Publishing Company.

PAGE McCARTY, - - EDITOR.

City delivery by carriers at 6 cents per week.

BY MAIL, POSTAGE PAID:
Daily, 1 year, \$5.00
Daily, 6 months, 2.50
Daily, 3 months, 1.25

Liberal commission to agents to solicit subscriptions.

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1 inch, 2 months,	27.00
1 inch, 3 months,	35.00
1 inch, 6 months,	57.00
1 inch, 12 months,	75.00

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

SUNDAY, - - - OCTOBER 31.

We publish a squib, asking whether the devil can be arrested and levied on.

Ben Butler once appeared in a Virginia court, but if the devil is tried, Bob Ingersoll is known to be his counsel.

The November number of the *Southern Planter* is on our desk, and from a glance at its contents we can commend it to the perusal of all readers as worth the time of perusal.

We want to see the Democratic party stop threatening the people with Mahone to excuse our own mistakes. Mahone was dead as soon as he lost the patronage, and his ghost should not be used by us when it is useless to his own party.

When the *Dispatch* comes out for a debt settlement it will help in a small manner, at least, to hasten the rescue of the State from this dreadful slum of boycotting in the name of authority, and bulldozing even State officials into forcing citizens out of their rights.

Some radical newspapers at the North like to prate about bulldozing voters in the South. The fact is that in Virginia elections have been fairer than in any other State. There may have been isolated cases of corruption, but all citizens poll their votes even when they appear at the polls herded by Mahone-like sheep.

The election Tuesday, under Democratic rule, will show a fairer poll than was ever known.

The only exception to the rule was under the Arthur-Mahone regime.

We congratulate the *Whig* on the judgment and patriotism with which it takes a sensible position for a debt settlement; and it only remains now for the press of the State to see that it is a duty to the people to tell the strict truth, and not to follow a party policy—which is merely the idea of a few men. The people have not even been informed that the State's creditors were willing to settle on the basis of the State's surplus revenue left over after paying for the government, schools, and everything else.

Mr. Evarts got off a joke in his oration somewhat with the grace of a dromedary trying to dance the "Highland Fling." But the fates (enraged at the audacious trespass of perfunctory dignity on the territory of folly) played him a prank like that the witches did on the undertaker who went to the ball.

They arranged for the salute to be fired and the veil to fall from the statue some time before the signal, and it caught Evarts on the summit of his best climax in the middle of his speech.

It is "positively shocking," as Lord Alcash says in the opera, to hear from Lord Charles Beresford that the British navy is in bad condition, and that the finest ship Her Majesty has on the sea could be blown out of the water by a modern shell which her own armament would be incompetent to do battle with against a first-class enemy.

We know, however, at the same time that if Lord Beresford is right the necessary reform will be inaugurated quickly; and when Britain's pride and might are brought to bear on war business we know that she will be all right.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS.

The week closed with every indication of Democratic success all along the line. Mr. Blaine's wild campaign in Pennsylvania has been the focus of the Republican policy in its virulent form, and his utterances, with the well-known fact that he is the big card for the Presidential nomination in 1888, has much to do with crystallizing and uniting the Democracy on the true principles that represent the safety of our free institutions.

Perhaps the most powerful factor in the growing power of the Democracy is the agreeable surprise to the conservative element of the Republicans and Independents and the capital interest of all parties that Cleveland's administration has been absolutely safe in all respects, and that the transfer of power was made to a party under honest influences.

Though in this year the contests are more in local than national issues, yet the loss of the patronage and the power to the Republicans shows with great effect everywhere.

In the South the fact that there is no longer any plunder, and no longer a great party headquarters in the Government itself, demoralizes the Republicans greatly.

In Virginia, we believe that with any spirit in the canvass and a proper use of the prestige of victory, we could have carried all the districts.

As it is, we feel confident of nine. In the Metropolitan district we are best aware of the absolute necessity of maintaining the Democratic power.

It is only necessary for every good citizen to do his duty to himself, his neighbor, and his country.

THE PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION.

The form of open reception at the White House has gone through many changes since the aristocratic days when Dolly Madison presided, down to the time when Lincoln, of blessed memory, inaugurated the style of receiving the apple-woman and chimney-sweep as well as the French Minister.

To-day the Democratic Chief Magistrate has adopted a happy medium between the aristocratic and the mob style of reception, and there is enough of formality to impart the proper dignity to the occasion.

On last Friday about four hundred persons were presented.

There were ladies, couples, office-seekers, and in fact all the curious grades of people from all parts who frequent Washington.

"One large and portly gentleman," says a reporter, "at the end of the line, in the full consciousness of being 'an old friend of Grover's,' posed and then thrust out his hand very impulsively, remarking, 'Did you ever see me before?' The man apparently had no doubt that the President would greet him with all the recognition and fervor of an old acquaintance, and the President threw no cold water on the fervent gentleman's expectations. 'Why, how d'do? How d'do?' the President exclaimed in great joy, for he always meets a man half way. 'I thought you would remember me,' said the man in a tone which indicated that to forget him would be impossible. 'Oh, yes,' said the President, 'I remember you distinctly, very distinctly; but I can't quite place you. Let me see; what's the name? Oh, yes, of course.' When the President heard the name he remembered it quite distinctly. But after a very brief conversation the man who thought he ought to have been remembered went away wearing a rather disappointed look."

A certain individual, with malicious intent, has been circulating the report that the *DAILY TIMES* does not give out its work according to what its principles and pledges indicate.

As a rule, every ass wants to mind other people's business when he does not know how to conduct his own, and there never was a real unalloyed idiot who did not think he could run a newspaper. The fact is that our paper is conducted to the entire satisfaction of its sponsors, who are citizens of this State and men competent to judge of the principles and ability of the editor.

The only thing that anybody else has to do with it is its quality as a newspaper; and, barring the hypochondriac croakers and the chronic meddlers, happily in an extremely small minority, the indications of popular favor and of brilliant success are unprecedented.

The resolution of the business-men's meeting in New York resolved that "by the candidacy of Henry George the business interests of our city are menaced, the security of property is threatened, and subversion of law and order is openly advocated."

GLORIOUS LIBERTY.

There are two ways of looking at most things. To the intelligent and patriotic public "Liberty Enlightening the World" is gloriously inspiring. Woman, to us, stands for everything pure, high, hopeful, and happy. By the light of her heavenly graces the human race has risen out of depravity and ignorance from darkness to light, and has advanced from glory to glory. She stands for the spiritual part of man, and her person may well be identified with the highest thought that can possess man. Enfranchised thought, enfranchised action, manhood working upon principle, makes glorious liberty. In the light of such thoughts we may contemplate "Liberty Enlightening the World."

But there is another view that may be taken, and none better than the French can tell us of the *Petroleuse*: Woman frantic under communistic heresies, with a torch ready to set the world on fire!

While we contemplate the great achievement of genius that meets the immigrant, let us remember how easily the greatest blessing may be turned to the direst curse. That will be our dread experience when, under communistic teachings, our glorious liberty shall turn to unrestrained license.

We apologize to our weekly exchanges for not sending them our paper last week. The night-long labor of getting out a new daily was the cause of the omission.

SPECIAL AND PERSONAL.

Why should anybody of any complexion vote against the party which has all the power?

"What is education?" asked a writer. Well, it is something a college graduate thinks he has until he becomes a newspaper man.—*Exchange*.

The difference between the Hayes order on civil service and that of Mr. Cleveland is that the latter is enforced and the former never was.

If any newspaper gets wrong on the color line it is because he dips his brush in the inkstand instead of in the paste-pot and clips an article with the wrong tint to it.

The conductor of the freight train who fled to the woods after the recent railroad horror has been found in a state of hopeless insanity, wandering about in the forest.

There was a fight between an Arizona lizard and a young alligator in the Smithsonian Institute on Friday, and there is applause in sporting circles. They never run to fight between Mahone and Brady.

CAN THE DEVIL BE ARRESTED?

Some Questions and Suggestions for the Auditor.

"—, of the Board, told him he (Mr. Tinsley) would go down town and arrest the Devil."—*Vide Mr. Ruffin's Letter in the State of October 28th*.

Why should Mr. Tinsley go "down town" to find the gentleman in question? Good Democrats always imagined he resided at Petersburg. But supposing that Mr. Tinsley had succeeded in effecting his arrest, would Mr. Royall have bailed him out? and would his Satanic Majesty have stood any chance of recovering positive damages from a Richmond jury, owing to his having been kept for some hours from the useful work on which he is supposed to be usually engaged—viz., that of finding employment "for idle hands" (yes, even in the basement of the Capitol) to do?

Will one of the "eminent legal authorities" who dissent from Judge Bond's ruling tell us whether President Ruffin could have sent for the satanic coupons after the trial, or would he have found such a proceeding likely to end in his burning his fingers? What a good time the world would have had whilst Mr. Tinsley held his prisoner by the tail in jail! If President Ruffin could only have induced him to tender his coupons for identification and verification he would have conferred a lasting benefit on society at large, as some of the State judges could have kept his suit hung up for months in the State courts.

Possibly President Ruffin could see his way to get the treasurer of Fauquier county, who seems to resemble that ill-advised boy who "stood on the burning deck, whence all but he had fled," to levy on the Lucifer estates. The owner is reported to possess large deposits of sulphur, brimstone, and other valuable combustibles. Failing in this, he might be offered the seat on the Indemnity Board, vacated by Mr. Ayres, with free access to the Treasury whenever desirable. As President Ruffin has not yet succeeded in discovering a single spurious coupon in the world above, the new member might be occasionally sent to see if there were any knocking about in the nether regions.

VIRGINIA DEBT-PAYER.

Right You Are!
The *DAILY TIMES* is the name of a bright, newsy, and racy paper just started in Richmond. It is edited by that chivalrous and able journalist, Captain Page McCarty. We wish the *TIMES* much success.—*Fredericksburg Star*.

Advertise in the *DAILY TIMES*.

SMALL SELFISHNESS.

ANNOYANCES WHICH DIMINISH THE HAPPINESS OF A FAMILY.

First Reading of the Morning Paper
Letting One Daughter Do Housework
While Another Remains Idle—List of Other Selfishnesses.

One does not particularly care to have the first reading of the morning paper, perhaps; but when one never gets it until another person, who has no more need or hurry than one's self, has not only read it, but studied it and committed the advertisements to memory, one possibly, through habit, expects nothing else, but just as possibly feels a slight indignation at the way things are taken for granted and one's self ignored. In the same manner one does not, perhaps, expect the most comfortable chair in the room as one's own set property; but when another individual, and that always the same one, takes it as if it was an heirloom, one is exceedingly unselfish one's self not to feel like making that seat something less comfortable for its sitter, although one might be restrained by the knowledge that in such resort the sitter would take the next most comfortable chair, leaving others to take refuge where they might, and be no better off than in the beginning.

So, moreover, one sees no especial occasion for any one individual in the family to monopolize, whenever evening comes, the one place that has the most light for either book or work or play, regardless who sits in the dim corner, or who has a shadow thrown where the strength of the blaze should fall. "I really cannot see anywhere else," says the monopolizer, tranquilly, as if in full explanation, and as if the others' eyes were of a different lens altogether, innocent of the fact that no one else can see either, and that it may not be positively important that the monopolizer should see at all, since such importance depends very much on what you see and how you look at it.

A selfishness as bad as any of the other forms occurs among those members of a household, where there is insufficient help, who do not lift their fingers to assist in the lighter work that in such instances falls on the family itself, and who see others eking out the work and filling the gaps with dusts and dish cloths and brooms without taking part—people who certainly are not to be looked at in the light of promoters of that comfortable feeling which springs from the sense of equal rights and liberties to all. Why one daughter sits with her novel while another scours the paint is a question that may well perplex the observer, who fails to see that it is because one will and the other won't, although the one who will cannot, in spite of herself, hinder a feeling of wrong done to herself, and some sensation of jealousy occasioned by the appearance of favoritism, which does not help to make family jars impossible.

We have known of mothers who carried the opposite idea so far that, able to keep no servants, as it chanced, they refused to let the daughters wait upon the sons, seeing no reason why the sons should not make the beds they slept in, and if they wanted to wear clothes requiring hard ironing, such as linen and duck and nankeen, should not do the ironing with their strong hands and muscles. But those mothers were exceptions in a world of over-indulged sons, yet we doubt not that they made matters easy for their future daughters-in-law, who without wishing their husbands to do such labor, or to effeminize themselves in any similar way, yet reaped the benefit of those husbands' having been early taught to consider the rights of wives and daughters and sisters.

But other selfishnesses as irritating as the grasping of the best seat and best light and best novel and first chance at book or newspaper can be met with at every turn in many families; the selfishness, let us say, that, having views on any questions conflicting with the views of another, will give voice to those views in season and out of season, and obtrude them even to the injury of the feelings of others, and if not early and late insisting upon them, yet never failing to read the fragment from book or journal unpleasantly supporting them, and indulging in the audible sniff or sneer or outspoken innuendo, if such a thing there be, on every occasion where the indulgence is possible, a selfishness that shows a consciousness of the value of no one's views but one's own, and treats the individuality of all others with contempt.

A similar selfishness is that which disregards engagements, which considers the promise to be at home on a certain day or a fixed hour as of no weight beside the inconvenience of keeping the engagement, and who, in this manner, disturbs the household arrangements by making meals wait, while servants grow impatient and unwilling, and eyes grow tired with watching and ears with listening, just as much as the almost precisely opposite selfishness insists upon the keeping of such promises and engagements, even to the point of positive discomfort and injury to the other party, who perhaps cannot keep them without such injury, and could be excused by one with any unselfish care. One would find it hard to come to the end of a statement of these small acts of selfishness which infest the household, and hurt it through a burning sense of the injustice done by them; and it is a question if, with the present imperfection of human nature, we shall ever quite escape them; they are as countless as gnats in a storm, and as vexatious.—*Harper's Bazar*.

Human Nature.

There is something queer in the fact that a man does not like to go out of his way. You ask a man how far it is to Greenville, and he tells you ten miles, you can drive that distance and not get particularly tired. But if he tells you that it is four miles, but the river is up and you will have to go two miles out of your way, making eight miles in all, you will think it is the longest eight miles you ever rode in your life. When you get within two miles of Greenville you will say that if you had not had to have gone out of your way you would be there now, and that thought is not conducive to one's patience.—*Detroit Free Press*.

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